Camp Bethel

It's Happening!

Volume 1, Issue 1

Fall 2016

Special points of interest:

- We're open for the winter with some minor adjustments
- Dining Hall Renovation has begun
- All weekends are completely booked for the winter
- Still need \$200,000 for the Dining Hall Renovation

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This summer we had 560 youth attend Camp Bethel! What a wonderful summer. It's always fun and exciting to watch the cars roll in and see the youth jump out with great excitement to be on the mountain for a week of summer camp. Some have been here before while others are here for the first time.

The campers head for the check-in line while their parents follow behind. Once check-in is complete, they head off to grab their bags and head to their cabins to get settled in for the week. They then meet their counselor and the other campers in their cabins.

The week is filled with activities like canoeing, tubing,

hiking, archery, riflery, trap shooting, over night campout, natural water slide, rappelling, rock wall climbing, crate stacking, crafts, night games, group Bible studies and chapel time.

Even though we do a lot of fun activities, our soul reason for existing is to share the good news of Jesus Christ. When it comes down to it, that's what makes us different from some camps. We're here to share how someone like a camper, can find forgiveness, salvation and how to have a meaningful relationship with Jesus.

I am excited to report that the following happened this



summer:

- 87 churches represented
- Youth came from 29 towns
- Youth came from 25 states
- 82 unchurched youth attended
- 62 first time professions
- 15 re-dedications

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Dining Hall Renovation Has Begun

Finally, the work has begun! Rotted floors and walls are being repaired, foundation for the expansion has been poured and sub-flooring laid. Walls are being erected and building materials are stacked everywhere. No doubt, we're two months behind schedule and we're going to have to work around the fact that the dining hall and kitchen will not be available for awhile. So, we're going to use the chapel for worship, activities, hang out place and dining until more progress can be made.

It's an amazing thing to watch the old building being transformed into a new, larger and updated building.

God has provided approx. \$206,000 and we're praying He'll provide the remaining

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If the Walls Could Talk



"dining hall is much more than just a dining hall"

One of the feature articles in our summer camp weekly newsletter is "If the Elk Could Talk..." from the perspective of one of the animals mounted on the walls of the dining hall. In the midst of construction, I wonder what those animals would have to say at this time.

Best estimates have that the dining hall has served over ³/₄ million meals over the

years. That's a lot of meals! Then add to that the number of games played, owie's doctored, crafts made, songs sung, Bible's studied, friendships formed, significant conversations that sharpen one other, tears shed, laughter shared, marriages begun over dishes and one can see that the dining hall is much more than just a dining hall.

We are excited that you are

partnering with us as we seek to enlarge and enhance the dining hall. As you join us in prayer with the construction and finances of this project, pray also for the fun, fellowship and new friendships that will soon fill the space between the newly constructed walls.

By Mary Allen

Hebrews 10:24 tells us; "Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works."

Build and Maintain, Maintain and Build

It is often thought that the maintenance team does nothing but fix things and build things around camp, and this is so true. We do many repairs and small construction projects every summer in addition to all that is done the remainder of the year (like a Dining Hall remodel). But, the significant building and maintenance is not done on buildings and grounds around camp but on the lives that God brings us.

This past summer I had the pleasure of working beside some very encouraging and Godly young men as we did our best to keep things going around camp. As He-

brews 10:24 tells us; "Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works." This is exactly what happened within the maintenance team this summer. Yes, some of those good works were projects around camp, but more often, they were love and good works within the team and throughout the whole staff.

I have been in full-time ministry for nearly eight years in addition to over twenty-five years working with youth, children and serving on elder boards and this quite possibly was my most encouraging period of ministry. All glory to God for the men he allowed me to work with this summer. I cherish their friendship and brotherhood in Christ and am excited to see what God is going to do through each one of them.

By the way, we also had an extremely productive summer building and maintaining grounds and buildings around camp. Come on up some time and I'll be happy to show you all the improvements we've made this year, but know that I am most inspired by what God did in the lives he brought us.

Jon Allen

Page 2 It's Happening!

Aprons

Aprons have been used for many years to protect clothing during cooking or even just wearing them as a decorative accent to one's clothing. If a person is to step foot in Camp Bethel's kitchen for longer than just a quick chat or to grab a glass of water, the question is soon asked, where can I find an apron?

In preparation for a day's cooking, an apron is put on first thing and is greatly appreciated to have in place as

the food preparations begin. Many times an apron is used to bring food out of dry or cold storage to the food prep counter. These storages will soon be expanded to offer adequate space for the food quantities needed. Praise God for His abundant blessings in allowing the expansion of the kitchen's pantry and providing a walk-in freezer and a walk-in refrigerator!

By the end of the day, the apron is generally in need

of a good washing and is a reminder of all the good food that was prepared and fed to hungry people. It is with great joy that the service of food preparation can be a part of ministering to hungry souls who are fed God's truth at Camp Bethel. I Chronicles 16:23 says, "Let the whole earth sing to the Lord! Each day proclaim the good news that He saves."

By Charmaine Huff



Lives are being changed Continued from front page

Yes, lives are being changed from all over our country.
Youth are not only coming to know Jesus as their Lord and Savior, but youth are also being convicted by the Holy Spirit. The following are commitments made by campers this summer:

- Regular Bible reading 92
- Praying more 15

- Sharing gospel/faith with family and friends
 47
- Regular quite time 10
- Attend/become active in a church 9
- Live life for Christ 18
- Forgive in a difficult situation
- Stop self-harming 3

Please pray for the work here at Camp Bethel as we continue to share the good news with all who enter theses gates.

By Tim Huff



"47 committed to share their faith with family and friends"

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Camp Bethel

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Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 Two are better off than one, because together they can work more effectively. If one of them falls down, the other can help him up. But if someone is alone and falls, it's just too bad, because there is no one to help him. If it is cold, two can sleep together and stay warm, but how can you keep warm by yourself Two people can resist an attack that would defeat one person alone. A rope made of three cords is hard to break.

Working together, we'll keep sharing and encouraging people in their walk with the Lord.



Dining Hall Renovation Has Begun Continued from front page

\$200,000 needed to pay for the project. He is faithful.

Please keep this project in your prayers as we seek God for the remaining amount needed and for the weather, as it impacts the project greatly.

By Tim Huff







